

Remarks

Claims 1-16 are pending in the present application and have been examined in the first instance. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the rejoinder of all claim groups and the statement by the Examiner that the claims contain allowable subject matter.

The Office has remarked on certain informalities of the specification as filed. Applicants are amending the specification herein and submit that the objections are overcome. Tables III-VI, which contain sequence information for PVP22 (Gly₄) Rep₄₉₁ (SEQ ID NO:21), Rep491 VP22 (SEQ ID NO:22), RepVP22-R₄₉₀ (SEQ ID NO:23) and VP22#2-RepVP5-EcRV-S-Cys (SEQ ID NO: 24), are deleted. The sequence information in the Tables is the same as the sequence information provided at the time of filing in the sequence listing for those SEQ ID NOS. References in the specification to these Tables also are removed in paragraphs 23 and 42, replaced as suggested by the Office by reference to SEQ ID NOS in the sequence listing. Claims 5-8 also are amended to refer to the sequences in terms of the sequences of the Sequence Listing, from the start codon referred to in the specification, which is known in the art.

Applicants have reviewed the specification, as requested, with respect to references to proteins versus nucleic acids which may be unclear and with respect to improper reference to Figures. Applicants submit that the specification now has been corrected. The meaning of the changed language is clear from the context of the original specification and would be clear to the skilled artisan. Therefore, no new matter has been added.

References to Figure numbers in the specification have been amended and replacement drawings are submitted herewith. In the

replacement drawing set, Figure 6 has been divided and placed on two separate sheets, labeled Figure 6A and Figure 6B. Former 6C now is part of 6A. Applicants request entry of the replacement drawings and submit that no new matter has been added.

Applicants submit that the objection has been overcome.

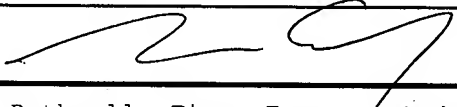
Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as indefinite. The Office Action requests acronyms be replaced with the full terms in claims 1, 2, 14, 15 and 16 and that claims 5-8 specifically refer to the SEQ ID NO intended to be claimed. The amendments have been made herein as requested by the Examiner.

Claim 11 has been amended to delete the term "about." Claims 14-16 also have been amended to correct lack of clarity as noted in the Office Action. Claim 14 now recites a method which comprises transfecting the cell with a DNA construct of claim 13, expressing the construct, and transfecting the cell with the rAAV vector. Applicants submit that this claim language does not imply that the construct of claim 13 is a rep-deleted rAAV vector. The informality concerning the integration of the vector "to a cell" also has been corrected herein. Claim 15 is canceled herein as redundant over claim 14. Claim 16 is amended to recite that the method comprises transfecting, rather than contacting, which Applicants submit is a positive method step. The language pertaining to contacting the cell with the fusion polypeptide of claim 1 has been moved to the end of the claim for the sake of clarity. No change in scope is intended. Applicants would like to point out that although the embodiment of claim 14 involves transfection using a DNA construct and expression of the fusion protein in the cell, claim 16 involves contact of the fusion polypeptide with the cell and does not require fusion polypeptide

expression by the cell as implied by the comments in the Office Action at page 4, second full paragraph.

No new matter has been added by any of the amendments to the specification, drawings, or claims. The majority of the amendments involve replacement of terms with an equivalent or moving claim language within a claim. The Office is invited to find additional support for the amendments at paragraph 8, last sentence and paragraph 32, page 12, lines 5-7, which discuss the embodiment of the invention of claim 16, namely affecting integration by directly contacting the cell with the fusion protein.

Applicants submit that all rejections based on indefiniteness have been obviated by the amendments made herein. Applicants therefore request reconsideration and allowance of the claims here presented.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,					
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